



The Long Term Care Coordinating Council  
 Wednesday, June 11  
 10:00-11:30 am  
 Child and Family  
 1268 Eddy St.  
 Providence, RI

### Draft Minutes

Joan Kwiatkowski	Josie Wong	Robert Harrison
Kelly Lee	Elaina Golstein	Catherine Taylor
Elena Nicolella	Michelle Lafrance	Holly Garvey
Louise Povall	Maureen Maigret	Mary Lou Moran
Ken Pariseau	Nicholas Oliver	Nancy Silva
Dianna shaw	Thom Marcello	Kathleen Kelly
Thomas Martin	Deb Burton	Sally Hay
Mario Olivihri	George Sousa	Jodi Glass
Lisa Pontarelli	Donna McGowan	Kathy Heren
Maria Barros	Virginia Burke	Donna Leong
Emmanuel Falch	Jim Nyberg	Sadie DeCourcy
Lt. Governor Roberts	Ray Rusin	

### 1. Welcome

Lt. Governor Roberts called the meeting to order. Lt. Governor Roberts also stated that Joan Kwiatkowski was named one of the best female business owners in Rhode Island.

### 2. Approval of minutes

Minutes were sent out through email. They will also be posted on the Secretary of State's website. Minutes were approved.

### 3. Nursing home update

*Ray Rusin, Chief, Office of Facilities Regulation,  
 Director, Radiation Control Program*

	Standard	Follow-up	Complaint	SQC
March-state inspection	8	6	19	0

April-state inspection	8	6	11	0
April-federal inspection	1	-	-	1
May-state inspection	9	5 <sup>2</sup>	6	1

Substandard quality of care monitoring of Elmhurst Extended Care—they are pending an unannounced, onsite follow-up.

The immediate jeopardy that was observed in April at Charlesgate has been follow-up monitored in May. It was found that the immediate jeopardy has been removed.

#### **4. Home and Community-Based Services Rules and Regulations**

*Overview by Elena Nicolella, Director of Policy and Innovation, RI Executive Office of Health and Human Services*

Home and community-based services state plan option (1915)

The transition from a waiver to a state plan requires that services are provided on a state-wide basis. Maureen Maigret asked if personal care is in the state plan. Elena stated that other authorities still exist, and the 1115 Waiver is the authority that RI uses for personal care. Adult day, however, is a state plan authority. The state plan allows the state to provided HCBS to individuals faster.

The State Plan HCBS adds a new optional categorically-eligible group. People who are not otherwise eligible for Medicaid, but meet the needs-based criteria and have income up to 150% FPL, will be added. Additionally, individuals with incomes up to 300% SS/FBR who would be eligible under at 1915(c) waiver will also be added.

Assisted living services are being considered a large topic of discussion currently. A HCBS is explicitly defined by what it is NOT. It is NOT a nursing facility, hospital, or Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities. HCB Settings have qualities that make a setting a home and truly integrated in the broader community. Elena stated that the State Plan definition is at odds with the work surrounding culture change in nursing facilities that have been in the works in RI. Group Homes are also topics of contention right now because people are divided as to whether or not it is a community-based setting.

There are administrative procedures for the state plan. There is an eligibility determination for individuals looking for HCBS. There is a needs assessment for the individual. Additionally, there the service plan creation is intended to be person-centered and free of conflicts of interest.

Currently, RI is in discussions with CMS on an application for Community First Choice, which is individually-directed. There is also an adoption of certain provisions regarding HCBS.

Kathleen Kelly asked if Elena can expand on what individually-directed means. It means that the person who is receiving the HCBS would have the hiring and firing capabilities.

Jim Nyberg asked if there would be an immediate effect if RI were to change from 1115 Waiver to the State Plan. Elena stated that there would not be a noticeable change.

Maureen Maigret stated that nursing homes have the potential to be home-like and integrated communities, but it may take a great deal of time.

## **5. Non-Emergency Transportation Update**

*Catherine Taylor, Director, Division of Elderly Affairs*

*Tom Martin, Policy and Innovation at EOHHS*

The data for the first month of roll-out stated that there was general improvement ensuring fewer complaints. In the beginning of May, there was an average of 16.8 general complaints. Currently, the number is down to about 8.8 general complaints per day.

While the overall number of complaints in the system has decreased, some LTCCC members expressed their concern that the transportation system is still not ironed out for their organizations and consumers. The Alliance for Better Long Term Care has been hosting subgroups to discuss best ways to provide aging training to the cab and taxi subcontractors who interact with consumers. Many of the LTCCC provider members have expressed frustration over the lack of communication that the drivers have had with the facilities before cancelling a ride or when they are running late. Tom stated that if there are any more complaints, he would like to be notified of them.

The volume of rides has increased over time. One of the issues that we continue to face is the quality of training for drivers. Most drivers are still showing up without uniforms or identification.

Elaina Goldstein stated that people with developmental disabilities also have a non-emergency transportation service. She stated the transportation service is quite irregular. She is asking if the LogistiCare contract will be expanded to include the DD population. Elena Nicolella stated that it depends on which program pays for the rides. Currently, the LogistiCare contract is paid for through Medicare dollars.

Joan Kwiatkowski stated that her non-profit organization looked into becoming a vendor for the transportation service. However, she stated that DBR's rules require the board members to submit driving records, which she believes is irrelevant.

Jim Nyberg asked how the training for the drivers is going. George Sousa of LogistiCare stated that there are different levels of complaints. Tom stated that there will be a follow-up with driver training; there will be a partnership with the LTC ombudsman for training. Lt. Governor Roberts stated that training is the most important component of the service.

## **6. Budget Update**

Sadie DeCourcy handed out a summary of the budget for FY 2015.

Kathleen Kelly stated that Article 15 lowers the state contribution for SSI for people living in assisted living. It provides the providers of certain assisted living a payment of \$458. The lowering of state payment means that there are people who are now unable to qualify for SSI.

Jim Nyberg stated that this might exclude people who make a few dollars more than the threshold.

## **7. Subcommittee Updates**

### LGBT Elder Care Subcommittee

There was a hosting of the documentary, GenSilent, last night. There will also be a community listening session on 6/17 from 5:30-7:30 at the Hall Library. The group is trying to gather stories and lived knowledge of aging and the LGBT community.

### Alzheimer's State Plan Commission

URI has funded a full-time position for the creation of a RI-based website for resources regarding Alzheimer's Disease. There is a resolution being introduced that will create a group to study the dementia care services within the state. The Citizen's Commission on Safe Driving has decided to take on the Safe Driving state plan recommendations.

### Integrated Care Initiative Consumer Advisory Council

Holly Garvey stated they are currently in a procurement stage to find a managed-care organization to partner with for Phase II. There are also subgroups formed that will be coordinating ICI outreach to the provider community.

### Legislation

Sadie Decourcy stated that the legislative meeting minutes will be sent out.

## **8. Public Comment**

Elaina Goldstein stated that there will be a Living RIte summit on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

Dir. Catherine Taylor stated that she will step down from her capacity on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Paula Parker and Sandra Powell ensure the continuity of all ongoing DEA projects moving forward.

## **9. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 9th – 10-11:30 am at Child and Family.**